

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A filter device comprising a filter element disposed in a filter housing having a housing port closed by a housing cover, said filter housing having an inlet for supplying a medium to be purified to an unfiltered side of the filter element and an outlet for discharging purified medium from a filtered side of the filter element, and a pressure relief valve arranged on the housing cover and subjected to a pressure on the unfiltered side of the filter element, wherein the housing cover is constructed in two parts and comprises an inside cover and an outside cover; the pressure relief valve is mounted on the inside cover, the inside cover closes the housing port, and a discharge path is formed between the inside cover and the outside cover for discharging any medium vented from the filter housing through the pressure relief valve.

2. A filter device according to claim 1, wherein the inside cover and the outside cover are connected by a latching device.

3. A filter device according to claim 2, wherein the latching device is arranged in a peripheral area between the outside of the inside cover and the inside of the outside cover.

4. A filter device according to claim 2, wherein a plurality of individual latching devices is provided between the inside cover and the outside cover, said latching devices being distributed circumferentially around the covers, and wherein a flow path is formed between adjacent latching devices.

5. A filter device according to claim 1, further comprising a sealing ring provided between the inside cover and a wall of the housing port.

6. A filter device according to claim 1, wherein the outside cover is connected to a wall of the housing port by a securing device.

7. A filter device according to claim 1, wherein the filter inlet is connected to a crankcase vent for a crankcase of an internal combustion engine, and the filter outlet is connected to an air intake tract of the internal combustion engine.